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Amendments to the drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, and 16, in which the word "STANDARD" has been corrected in FIG. 4, and the label for reference number 23a has been corrected to read "DISPLAY ABBREVIATED KEYS," as recommended in the Office Action. No new matter is added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application.

The specification was objected to because of minor informalities on pages 16, 26, and 27. The specification has been amended to correct the informalities noted in the Office Action. Also, the Abstract has been amended so as not to exceed 150 words. No new matter is added. Approval of the corrected specification is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to because of inadvertent errors in FIGS. 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, and 16. The word "STANDARD" has been corrected in FIG. 4, and the label for reference number 23a has been corrected to read "DISPLAY ABBREVIATED KEYS," as recommended in the Office Action. No new matter is added. Approval of the replacement drawing sheets is respectfully requested.

Applicants' claimed invention is directed to an image sending method and an image sending device which includes selecting/setting the following three properties: **sending mode**, **image quality**, and **image resolution** (see, e.g., independent claims 1, 7, and 13). According to the Applicants' claimed invention, image quality and image resolution are separate and distinct properties of image data.

Applicants' claimed invention enables arbitrary and unrestricted selection of two of the above three properties, i.e., sending mode and image quality. Based on the selected sending mode and image quality, a resolution for the image data is selected from a range of resolutions (see, e.g., specification at page 11, last paragraph and page 14, second paragraph). In other words, a resolution is selected to satisfy both the selected sending mode and the selected image quality.

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Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, and 13-16 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,437,881 to Baba et al. ("Baba"). Claims 4, 10, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Baba in view of U.S. Patent 6,614,551 to Peek. Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Baba in view of U.S. Patent 6,590,673 to Kadowaki. These rejections are respectfully requested.

Baba does not teach or suggest an image sending method or an image sending device including selecting/setting a resolution corresponding to a selected image quality as claimed. Also, Baba does not teach or suggest that the resolution is selected from a range of resolutions related to the selected sending mode.

According to Baba, the sending of an image is defined by two properties: transmission speed and image quality, which "are not usually independently instructed" (Baba at column 6, lines 20-25). For example, an image may be sent with "low speed and high image quality," "standard speed and standard image quality," or "high speed and not excellent image quality" (see column 6, lines 25-29).

In other words, according to Baba, a compromise must be made between image quality and transmission speed. In contrast, according to the Applicants' claimed invention, a high transmission speed and a high image quality can be achieved, by compromising on image resolution.

In Baba, no distinction is made between resolution and image quality. Therefore, Baba does not teach or suggest the three properties recited in the Applicants' claimed invention, namely, **sending mode, image quality, and image resolution.**

Baba does not teach or suggest selecting a resolution based on both image quality and sending mode. In Baba, a resolution is obtained based on the reading resolution of a scanner (see column 17, lines 14-38), or processing speed (see column 7, lines 1-8).

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Regarding independent claim 13, Baba does not teach or suggest setting a processing of content based on an image sending route.

Claim 13 recites setting a processing of content based on an image sending route and an image quality, where "image sending route" refers to the means by which data is transferred, e.g., a telephone line, the Internet, an intranet, LAN, CATV, VPN, etc. (see specification at page 22, lines 3-19). Baba simply does not refer to an image sending route in setting a processing of content.

For at least the reasons discussed above, the Baba reference does not anticipate or otherwise render obvious the Applicants' claimed invention.

It is believed that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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